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MINUTES

ENCINO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL PARKS AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE ZOOM SPECIAL MEETING Wednesday April 6, 2022 @ 2 PM

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IN CONFORMITY WITH THE SEPTEMBER 16, 2021 ENACTMENT OF CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY BILL 361 (RIVAS) AND DUE TO CONCERNS OVER COVID-19, THE ENCINO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED ENTIRELY WITH A CALL-IN OPTION OR INTERNET-BASED SERVICE OPTION

Public Comment: Public calling in, please press *9 on your phone to raise your hand to speak. For those that are using the Zoom Webinar please use the raise your hand feature to speak. Public comment on agenda items will be heard only when the item is up for discussion. Public comment on agenda items is limited to 1 minutes per agenda item. Time may be adjusted at the Chair's discretion.

AB 361 Updates: Public comment cannot be required to be submitted in advance of the meeting, only real-time public comment is required. If there are any broadcasting interruptions that prevent the public from observing or hearing the meeting, the meeting must be recessed or adjourned. If members of the public are unable to provide public comment or be heard due to issues within the Neighborhood Council's control, the meeting must be recessed or adjourned.

Committee members PRESENT:

1-*Glenn Bailey: Co-Chair, 2-*Pat Bates: Co-Chair 3-Katie Bull 4-Amy Zidell **Committee Members: ABSENT:**5-Marianne Davis *Denotes Board Member/Alternate (maximum 5 allowed)

1. **Call to Order** at 2:05 PM.

2. **Approval of Committee minutes.** Discussion and possible action to approve draft Parks and Environment Committee Minutes of the [12/14/2021](#) and [2/2/2022](#) Meetings. *Turns out they had been approved at prior meeting, approved again.*

3. **Report/Presentation from Agencies:** *none present*

4. New Business Action Items: Votes may be taken on all action items.

A. Discussion and possible action: The Encino NC-funded extension of the pollinator garden at Encino LAFD Station 83 is underway. A request has been made of the City (CD 4) for additional support for the station to pay for more weeding, mulching, and to extend the crushed granite through the middle of the pollinator garden, which is currently eroded decomposed granite. An extensive discussion with Capt. Lam at Station 83 raised the issue that Station 83 could use a lot more community support. The conclusion was to explore the possibility of having a “ribbon-cutting” event at the station to highlight the sustainable pollinator garden and to showcase the station. The LAFD Foundation would be invited to fundraise for the Station and we could provide educational materials on sustainable habitat friendly landscaping. This would highlight the roles played by the Encino NC, SFV Audubon Society, and City agencies (eg. CD4, Mayor’s office, LADWP) in responding to our drought crisis and supporting our LAFD. Discussion would include what role the ENC wants in planning and production, selecting dates, rounding up dignitaries, and coordinating with the fire captain and the Deputy Chief. The Encino Chamber of Commerce is willing to offer assistance. *Discussed at some length, more information to come once date is selected. Motion to support a “ribbon-cutting” event at LAFD Station 83 to showcase the native pollinator-friendly garden, likely in June 2022. Suggested asking Executive Committee to add funding. Pat/Katie, 4 yes 0 no 0 abstentions.*

B. Discussion and possible action: Earth Day event on Ventura Blvd: 4/23/2022 from 8am to 10:30 AM. It appears we will need to set up a table & a couple chairs near Ventura & Hayvenhurst - the easiest might be on the sidewalk in front of CVS. A couple volunteers would be needed to staff the table, and it looks like we might need 24 volunteers to actually clean, there should be 2 on each side of the street and each pair will cover about ½ mile. The supplies will be dropped off at the table between 8 and 8:30. The Chamber of Commerce will be helping, we need to start rounding up volunteers. I am not available that morning but will help with what I can. (See Old Business Item 5.A.) It is up on the Encino NC website now.

C. Discussion and possible action: Consider Community Impact Statement regarding CF [22-0151](#) in requesting and investigating a plan for new developments to be carbon neutral. *Motion recommend the ENC prepare a CIS supporting CF 22-0141 Glenn/Pat 4 yes/0 no/ o abstentions. CIS would ask clarification if it includes remodels, does it consider trees/green space, does it include all types of properties, consider incorporating enhanced solar generating capacity community solar opportunity.*

5. Old Business Action/discussion Items: Votes may be taken on all action items: A. Discussion and possible action: Participate in Ventura Boulevard Cleanup with Volunteers Cleaning Communities on 4/23/2022, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. See description. Encino volunteers [register here](#).

B. Discussion and possible action: Possible funding not to exceed \$5,000 for installation of a native plant area in Los Encinos State Historic Park in an area adjacent to decomposing oak tree branches. Such area would be designed to attract a variety of birds and insects. *Need time to do study and get State guidelines*

C. [Council File 21-1286](#) requesting reports from the City Planning Department on the Mulholland Scenic Parkway Specific Plan, Design Review Board and interpreting other environmental matters was passed unanimously by the City Council on 12/6/2021, reports are due in 90 days so early March 2022 be on the lookout. As of 4/3/2022 there are no reports in the file, however we have heard that City Planning is proposing to make changes such as combining the Wildlife Pilot Study and the Ridgeline Protection Ordinance into one program. **These studies have already been delayed and keep being threatened with defunding.** *Should contact Courtney at city Planning re: status*

D. Discussion and possible action: [CF 20-1205-S1](#) , motion introduced 12/08/2021, notes that: “The Bureau of Engineering is developing the Master Plan for the Sepulveda Basin, called the Sepulveda Basin Vision Plan Project (Project), and is slated to start work on the Feasibility/Conceptual Study Phase in early 2022 . The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy has stated that the Project is eligible for a grant related to the Upper Los Angeles Rivers and Tributaries. In order to fund the Feasibility/Conceptual Phase of the Project, the Bureau of Engineering would like to apply for \$950,000 in grant funds from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy” That grant has been approved by the SMMC on, and was **approved by the Los Angeles City council on 2/23/2022, final 3/11/22**. The ENC filed a Community Impact Statement on [CF 20-1205](#) noting, among other things, that it supports a new master plan for the Sepulveda Basin on the condition that it includes provision for informing and consulting with community groups including the Encino and Lake Balboa Neighborhood Councils. We have refiled the same CIS under CF 20-1205-S1, but we should discuss filing a supplemental based of the fact that **the Encino Neighborhood Council has not yet as of 3/11/2022 been informed of anything regarding what is clearly going on.**

E. Discussion and possible action: [Council File 22-0002-S18](#), introduced 2/22/2022, waived out of committee, passed 3/4/2022. The City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its state legislative program support and/or sponsorship for legislation that would provide at least \$197 million in funding necessary to complete design and construction of the Valley LA Riverway before the 2028 Olympics; and be it also resolved, with the concurrence of the mayor, that by adoption of this resolution, the City of Los Angeles also includes in its state legislative program support and/or sponsorship for legislation that would provide at least \$15 million to complete feasibility, planning and design of ULART active transportation projects in disadvantaged communities in Los Angeles. [See also CF 21-0535](#). **The Encino Neighborhood Council has not yet as of 3/11/2022 been informed of anything regarding what is clearly going on.** 3

F. Discussion and possible action: [Council File 22-0002-S9](#): Introduced 2/2/2022, waived out of committee, adopted 2/9/2022 the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2021-2022 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for the Sepulveda Basin Vision Plan and the approval of a state budget request for \$3,000,000 in one-time funding for expanding open access and recreational amenities within the Sepulveda Basin Vision Plan. **The Encino Neighborhood Council has not yet as of 3/11/2022 been informed of anything regarding what is clearly going on**

G. Discussion and possible action: Participate with the Mayor's office in an event promoting LA's Green New Deal City Sustainability Plan during April 2022. Suggest we consider getting some of our vacant tree sites planted. See: [Green New Deal Main Website LA's Green New Deal Sustainability City Plan](#) (full plan pdf) [Green New Deal Neighborhood Council Toolkit](#) (includes full list of action guides) [Plant Free Trees in Your Neighborhood Action Guide](#) [Grow Your Own Food Action Guide](#) [Some resources for residents!](#) *Defer event to October, too much going on right now.*

H. Discussion and possible action [CF 15-0989](#): LA28 and the City of Los Angeles: Review the Games agreement; consider requesting a presentation on proposed Sepulveda Basin venues; consider Community Impact Statement requesting that Neighborhood Councils including or adjoining venue areas be consulted as a first step in community outreach, rather than as an afterthought. Consider [proposed Sepulveda Basin venues and rendering](#) based on information received. *This was discussed at some length, conclusion was to contact Stuart Waldman at VICA (he is on LA28 committee) regarding what is planned. Concluded to keep Melanie Winter (the river Project) in the loop, consider a future town hall on the future of the Sepulveda Basin including wish list and plans/funding requests currently underway.*

I. Discussion and possible action [CF 21-1462](#) Consider CIS supporting Motion (Buscaino - Lee - et al.) relative to directing the Department of Recreation and Parks, with the assistance of the City Administrative Officer, and any other departments, as needed, to hire a consultant to assist in the development of a ballot measure, to provide funding for the purposes identified in the "Parks Condition Assessment Report" and Executive Directive 31, "Achieving Park Equity." **This motion passed City council on 3/9/2022.**

J. Discussion and possible action: The City recently posted its Tree Inventory for [Encino](#) and it

reports in the public right of way (parkways) there are 11,792 trees (70% stocking), 474 stumps, and 4,532 vacant sites. What can ENC do to protect existing trees and encourage the planting of up to 5,006 trees where there are currently stumps and vacant sites? Possible recommendation to Council District 4 and the Office of the Mayor. **This was discussed and agreement was reached that the area along Ventura Blvd. west of White Oak Blvd. to Lindley certainly meets criteria for adding street trees. It could be done with NC funds, might require a city council motion, would need watering for 3 years.**

K. Discussion and possible action: Council File 21-1469 relative to instructing the Bureau of Engineering, with the assistance of the Bureau of Street Services, Los Angeles Department of Transportation, Department on Disability, and other relevant departments, to report with recommendations for improvements or changes to the City's sidewalk programs. How can repair of the City's sidewalks minimize impact on existing parkway trees?

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L. Discussion and possible motion regarding Proposition K: L.A. For Kids Program projects within the boundaries of the Encino NC proposed for partial funding during Fiscal Year 2022-23:

1. Construct new aquatic facility (swimming pool); location has been reported as being just east of the Department of Recreation and Parks Valley Regional Headquarters (the overflow parking area) - \$3,000,000 available. [See also CF 19-0205-S1 report dated 3/3/2022](#)
2. Hjelte Field: construct new athletic fields, lighting and parking - \$1,000,000
3. Los Angeles Riverfront Park - Phase III Design (Balboa to LA River Orange Line Crossing)
4. Sepulveda Basin Lake Balboa Park (Proposition K Project ID #R31) to include complete design and engineering of a new irrigation system for the entire 67-acre site, and complete construction to install new irrigation system for an area of up to 11 acres, based on a total Proposition K funding authority of \$2,506,534. Approved by L.A. for Kids Steering Committee on 1/27/22. **Watch for future updates**

M. Sepulveda Basin Controlled Burns - The LA Fire Department is working with Stakeholder groups to initiate ongoing controlled burns of brush west of Woodley Avenue and north of Burbank Boulevard (approximately 70 acres) as soon after September 15, 2021 as weather conditions permit (wind, temperature and humidity). Currently postponed to May/June 2022 due to possible burrowing owl presence!

N. LA County Parks Needs Assessment 2021 Regional and Rural Edition - recommendations regarding the Sepulveda Basin and possibly other parks located with the ENC. [Website](#) **O.** LA City 2021 Draft [List of Tree Species](#) for Public Right of Way

6. Informational Items/Reports/Updates

A. Los Encinos State Historic Park update - Amy Zidell

B. Encino Park and Encino Community Center update

C. Sepulveda Basin update (NOTE: Those portions of the Sepulveda Basin located south of Victory Boulevard, west of the 405 Freeway and east of White Oak Avenue are located within the certified boundaries of the Encino NC.)

- D. Water: LADWP rebates, drought, water use restrictions
- E. NC Sustainability Alliance - currently meets virtually second Sundays, 6:30 pm and has four active committees. [Website](#)
- F. Cool Blocks LA leaders are now being recruited and trained. [Webpage](#)
- G. Climate Equity LA, A Three Part Series (March, April and May): will focus on the building decarbonization the next two Thursdays this month. For those who missed the launch of the series on March 3, the recording may be viewed [here](#). The next session is this Thursday, March 17, from 6 to 8 pm. Learn more about the series and register [here](#). **This was added to the website**
- H. Los Angeles 100% Renewable Energy Study (LA100) issued by the U.S. Department of Energy National Renewable Energy Laboratory - [Executive Summary](#); Full report - [12 chapters](#) I. 2020 Biodiversity Report - Council File [15-0499](#) - report adopted by City Council on August 18, 2021

7. Committee Member Comment on Items not on this Agenda

Adjournment at: ___4:32PM_____ Next Parks and Environment Meeting: _5/4/2022